

## Preparedness & Planning

### Tornado Cleanup and Response Web Page Features Preventive Measures for Occupational Hazards

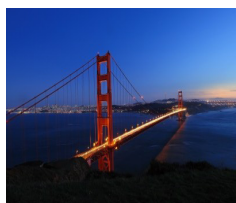
This page includes [CDC immunization recommendations](#) for disaster responders, health recommendations for relief workers, and interim assessment tools for occupational safety and health in various healthcare settings, as well as guidance for hazards and disaster site management.

### Guidance on Microbial Contamination in Previously Flooded Outdoor Areas

Bacterial and viral microbial contamination of [flood waters](#) can cause great concern for use of previously flooded outdoor areas; harmful organisms can persist in the environment up to six months. Risk assessment of such conditions is discussed.

### Reauthorizing the Pandemic and All-hazards Preparedness Act: A National Security Imperative

Dr. Robert Kadlec, former Senior Director for Biodefense Policy on the Homeland Security Council, writes this commentary on the [reauthorization](#) of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA). Dr. Kadlec's recommendations for the bill relate to strengthening the role of the ASPR within HHS, maintaining the capability of our public health infrastructure to respond to disasters, and promoting a "robust" medical countermeasure enterprise.



### San Francisco Area to Test Biodefense Web site

The San Francisco area is testing its [mass prophylaxis Web site](#) to help resident's access countermeasures in the event of an outbreak or biological attack. During the test residents were asked to access the Web site at certain times to ensure that the site could handle increased volume during a crisis.

### Connecticut Seeks Details on Children in Disaster Preparedness

In Connecticut lawmakers have approved a [new bill](#) which would require the state to specifically consider children in their emergency response plans. The Commissioner of Emergency Management and Homeland Security will be required to submit annual reports that address the health needs of children in emergencies.

### Rapid Detection of Ricin in Milk

Ricin is a potential bioterrorism agent demonstrating a critical need for a [rapid detection](#) method in food. This study finds the use of combined immunomagnetic separation (IMS) and surface-enhanced Raman spectroscopy (SERS) can detect and quantify ricin within 20 minutes.

## News

### German Shortcomings in Focus as Outbreak Wanes

The [E. coli outbreak](#) in Germany appears to be waning after sickening more than 3,000 people and killing 36.

### Next Generation Disaster Management

[Lessons learned](#) from the 2011 California Mobile Command Center Rally and Disaster Management Initiative held May 22 and 23 show that beyond the more explicit partnership of public and private entities, education has an equally important responsibility in disaster preparation and management.

### Text '4ER411' to find Nearest ER with Shortest Wait

A new service available in some states called "[ER Texting](#)" sends you report on the expected wait times at nearby emergency rooms when you send a text to 4ER411.

### Federal Advisory Panel Recommends Changes to Select Agent Program

The Federal Experts Security Advisory Panel has recommended that 11 bacterial species and viruses on the select agent list be prioritized as "[Tier 1](#)" agents; and that 19 others be removed from the list. The advisory committee also recommended implementing additional security measures on the personnel and data involved with the 11 Tier 1 agents.

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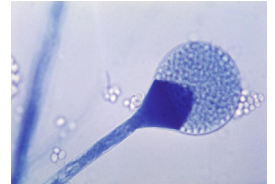
## Defending the Safety of the Global Food System from Intentional Contamination

The efficiency of the [food system](#) enables products derived from a wide range of global sources to be sourced, produced, and distributed rapidly due to the speed of national and global just-in-time supply chains. The food industry's routine food safety measures are not designed to protect against high-impact deliberate contamination. Initiatives to mitigate vulnerabilities must encompass the entire worldwide farm-to-table food systems.

## Surveillance

### Reports of Mucormycosis Following the Joplin, MO Tornado

CDC is assisting the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services with an investigation into reports of a life-threatening [fungal infection](#) in people who were injured during the tornado that struck Joplin, MO in May.



### Dengue Virus Circulating Between Monkeys and Mosquitoes Could Emerge to Cause Human Outbreaks

Researchers at the University of Texas state that more scientific study is needed on sylvatic dengue viruses due to their potential for adaptation to [human transmission](#) and the insight that such research would bring into the pathology of human dengue.

## Communications

### CDC Natural Disaster Public Service Announcements (PSAs) and Podcasts

The Centers for Disease Control created nine different types of [outreach materials](#) for some of the 28 topics on their website. The outreach types include PSAs, and social media like Twitter tweets and YouTube videos.



### HHS Toolkit of Public Health Emergency Text Messages now Available

A [new toolkit](#) of prepared cell phone text messages advising people how to protect their health after a disaster is available now through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These messages support state and local emergency managers in disaster response and are available online

### FEMA, FCC Announces Nationwide Test of the Emergency Alert System

FEMA and the Federal Communications Commission plan to conduct the first [nationwide test](#) of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) on November 9, 2011 at 2pm ET. The test will last up to three and a half minutes and will involve radio, cable television, satellite radio and television, and wireline video service providers across all states, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

### National Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Awareness Day: June 27th

This June, the Veterans Affairs' National Center for PTSD needs your help to increase PTSD awareness. The more we know about dealing with trauma and PTSD, the more we can help others (or ourselves). Here are some ways we can help the VA's National Center for PTSD reach its goal:

- Visit [www.ptsd.va.gov](http://www.ptsd.va.gov) to learn more about trauma and PTSD.
- Print educational materials from the site to hand out.
- Add a link to [www.ptsd.va.gov](http://www.ptsd.va.gov)
- Stay up-to-date on the latest developments in PTSD

The VA's National Center for PTSD is the center of excellence for research and education on the prevention, understanding, and treatment of PTSD.

### **For Firefighters, Wireless Self-powered Router “Breadcrumbs” that Won’t Become Toast when Baked or Soggy when Hosed**

Cellular phones, Global Positioning System (GPS), WiFi, Bluetooth...the list goes on. In today's modern world, digital signals connect us to friends, family, colleagues and just about anyone else in countless ways. In fact, it's hard to imagine maintaining these relationships without the aid of digital communications. Yet, despite the ubiquity of such devices, with few exceptions, today's firefighters still rely on 20th century radios, whose outdated analog signals have trouble penetrating debris and concrete. When a firefighter heroically plunges into a smoke-filled building, tunnel, or forest, UHF radio or, for that matter, even a GPS satellite signal won't follow. The firefighters vanish from the map. That's why the Department of Homeland Security combined two-previously developed, heat and water-proof monitors with new technology that could lead to a [life-saving solution](#).

## **Pandemic Planning**

### **The Benefits To All Of Ensuring Equal And Timely Access To Influenza Vaccines In Poor Communities**

When influenza vaccines are in short supply, allocating vaccines equitably among different socio-economic jurisdictions is critical to minimizing the spread of influenza. Using a detailed [computer simulation model](#) of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region, it was found that limiting or delaying vaccination of residents of poorer counties could raise the total number of influenza infections and the number of new infections per day at the peak of an epidemic throughout the region. Among other underlying reasons, poorer counties tend to have high-density populations and more children and other higher-risk people per household, resulting in more interactions and both increased transmission of influenza and greater risk for worse influenza outcomes. The authors stress that policy makers across the country, in poor and wealthy areas alike, have an incentive to ensure that poorer residents have equal access to vaccines.

### **Transmission of Influenza on International Flights**

International flights have been thought to increase the spread of disease around the world. Authors in [Emerging Infectious Diseases](#) sought to understand the dynamics of international flights in regard to influenza transmission and how this affects public health response. The authors performed a retrospective cohort study to determine exposure risk during two long flights from the US to Australia on May 23-24, 2009. Surveys were conducted with the passengers three months after arrival. The surveys showed that 13 passengers had influenza-like illness (ILI) before the flight and 32 developed ILI within one week post flight. The authors found that sitting in the same row and up to two rows in any direction increased the risk of exposure to influenza.



Photo source: FreeDigitalPhotos.net

### **Perinatal Outcomes After Maternal 2009/H1N1 Infection: National Cohort Study**

Researchers in the British Medical Journal followed up on a [cohort study](#) of pregnant women in the UK with confirmed 2009 H1N1 pandemic influenza and the risk of adverse fetal outcomes. They studied 256 pregnant women admitted to the hospital between September 2009 and January 2010 and mainly measured rates of stillbirth, perinatal mortality, and neonatal mortality. The research showed that pregnant women infected with 2009 H1N1 pandemic influenza had a higher risk of stillbirth, perinatal mortality, and neonatal mortality than healthy women.

### **Age-specific Differences in Influenza A Epidemic Curves: Do Children Drive the Spread of Influenza Epidemics?**

In the American Journal of Epidemiology, researchers attempt to quantify how [children drive the spread](#) of influenza. The researchers collected data from the 1995-1996 influenza season from the Canadian FluWatch program and hospitalizations from the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic. They then compared the 10-19 year-old age group with the 20-29 year-old age group. The data showed that the 10-19 year-old group did not always get sick earlier than other groups. The researchers found the 20-29 year-old group drove the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic infections. They concluded that there is doubt of the issue on school children driving influenza epidemics.

## **Training & Events**

### **Basic Epidemiology Training Series**

*Available: online lecture or CD-ROM/workbook*

E is for [Epidemiology](#) is a 5-part training series that introduces non-epidemiologists to the basic concepts of epidemiology. I is for [Investigation](#) contains 7 modules that use case studies to examine the concepts of an outbreak investigation. P is for [Practice](#) features 6 case studies developed to allow non-epidemiologists to practice basic epidemiology skills.

### **ICS in Action: Investigating a Disease Outbreak Training**

Designed to help public health professionals at the local level integrate use of the Incident Command System (ICS) into [investigating a disease outbreak](#), this video and workbook-based training is appropriate for small group or self-paced learning. You may download the participant workbook, facilitator guide, evaluation forms, and the video script/slides. This training is designed to help public health professionals at the local level integrate use of the Incident Command System (ICS) into a common public health department activity: investigating a disease outbreak.

### **Introduction to Mental Health Preparedness**

*Available Online*

Originally developed for public health professionals responsible for responding to public health emergencies including natural disasters, disease outbreaks and terrorist events, this video and workbook-based training is appropriate for small group or self-paced learning. You may download the participant workbook, facilitator guide, evaluation forms, and the video script/slides. [The training](#) is designed to raise awareness of the immediate and short-term mental health consequences of disasters for anyone who may be part of the disaster response. It was. It may also be useful for staff from other organizations as well as community members who volunteer to assist in responding to emergencies.

| Date/Time   | Event  | Location                        |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Jul 6, 2011   | <b>2011 Chemical Security Summit</b><br>The <u>fifth annual summit</u> will provide a forum for representatives from the chemical community to exchange information and network with other security professionals, to share best practices, to find out about chemical security regulations, and to gain insight into the roles of state, local, and federal agencies and departments involved in chemical security.   | Baltimore, MD                   |
| July 13-14, 2011<br><br>Scholarship Application Deadline is June 24th | <b>Free CERC Training</b><br>CDC's 1-1/2 day course provides valuable instruction for those who will perform crisis and risk communication and media relations in the event of a public health emergency. Participants learn how to systematically plan, develop, implement, and evaluate crisis and emergency risk communication activities. <u>Registration is required.</u> Limited scholarships are available for travel and lodging.  | Chicago, MidAmerica Center, UIC |
| July 27-29, 2011  | <b>Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Taining</b><br>The Counseling & Career Development Center at Grand Valley State University will be offering a three-day combined <u>CISM training workshop</u> : Basic Group and Individual, on July 27-29, 2011, on the GVSU Allendale Campus. This is a unique opportunity to receive training in both Basic Group and Individual CISM in a condensed time frame. This training is an MCOLES approved program. State Board and Social Work continuing education credits are also available   | Grand Valley State University   |
| August 9-11, 2011   | <b>National Conference on Health Communications, Marketing, and Media</b><br>The Fifth Annual <u>National Conference</u> on Health Communications, Marketing, and Media brings together academics, public health researchers, and practitioners from Federal and state government and the private sector, and provides a forum for collegial dialogue within and across these disciplines. The conference provides an excellent opportunity to meet with colleagues and shape the future of health communications, marketing, and media practice. Sponsors: Office of the Associate Director for Communication, CDC; SAMHSA; National Cancer Institute; and National Public Health Information Coalition.  | Omni Hotel Atlanta, GA          |
| August 10-11, 2011  | <b>Community Health Resilience Summit 2011: Information Exchange for Situational Awareness and Optimal Decision-Making</b><br><u>The Summit</u> will highlight needs, current initiatives and capabilities to develop the information exchange and situational awareness capabilities necessary to enhance community health resilience with the goal of identifying synergies and areas of cooperation that can lead to an approach that can be applied nationwide. A major focus of the Summit is to highlight current best practices, approaches, tools, technologies and activities that can be leveraged to develop an interoperable system that is readily scalable to meet the requirements of multiple local, state and federal government, private sector and non-profit stakeholders. | Washington, DC                  |

| Date/Time   | Event   | Location   |
|---|---|--|
| August 11-12, 2011<br><br>Application Deadline:<br>July 5, 2011 | <b>Health Impact Assessment Training Opportunity.</b><br>Application Deadline: July 5, 2011<br>The Michigan Department of Community Health is accepting applications to attend a <u>free Health Impact Assessment (HIA) training</u> for public health professionals and planners. The training is designed to bring together public health professionals and city/county planners to learn how to use HIA methodology to determine the health impacts of projects and policies. MDCH is encouraging teams of two to four individuals including at least one person from the local health department and one from the community's planning department to attend together so that each discipline can share its perspective, and relationships can be built between planning and public health.<br>For more information or to apply:<br><a href="http://www.michigan.gov/climateandhealth">www.michigan.gov/climateandhealth</a> | R.A. MacMullan<br>Conference Center<br>Roscommon, MI |
| August 15-15, 2011  | <b>Free CERC Training</b><br>CDC's 1-1/2 day course provides valuable instruction for those who will perform <u>crisis and risk communication</u> and media relations in the event of a public health emergency. Participants learn how to systematically plan, develop, implement, and evaluate crisis and emergency risk communication activities. Registration is required. Limited scholarships are available for travel and lodging.   | CDC Headquarters,<br>Atlanta, GA                     |



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